



EMBASSY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Public Affairs Section

Accredited in Papua New Guinea, Solomon Islands, and Vanuatu

Media Release

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United States Mourns Alongside PNG

Port Moresby—The United States Embassy applauds local efforts to galvanize action to address the high incidence of gender based violence in Papua New Guinea. In solidarity with Papua New Guinean friends, U.S. Ambassador Walter North and embassy staff will attend the National Haus Krai event in Port Moresby.

Ambassador North said “All of us need to act to eliminate gender based violence. I especially encourage men to step forward and do the right thing.” Men have often been defined as part of the problem but many of them have stood up to be part of the solution through the Haus Krai movement and other organizations here in Papua New Guinea. The Embassy welcomes the participation of more men as advocates in their communities and as voices that speak out against violence towards women and girls.

The current civil society coalition has created a strong momentum against the horrific violence affecting every citizen of Papua New Guinea. This momentum is very promising. The Embassy hopes it will continue beyond May 15. The United States calls for stronger protections for women, including more effective laws, better law enforcement, the enhancement of prevention and response efforts, and the reduction of stigma and harmful practices.

We can and must stop violent behavior so that each of our daughters can ride the bus to school without fear, all of our sisters can fulfill their tremendous potential, and every woman and girl can live up to her full potential.

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